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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5825
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHDC
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 THE HAGUE 001184

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/23/2016

TAGS: PREL PGOV PINR EU NL

SUBJECT: DUTCH SOCIALIST PARTY (SP): NOT YOUR FATHER'S
MAOISTS

Classified By: AMBASSADOR ROLAND ARN...

65298 2006-05-24 06THEHAGUE1184 Embassy The Hague CONFIDENTIAL   C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 THE HAGUE 001184   SIPDIS   SIPD

¶1. (C) SUMMARY: Under the charismatic leadership of Jan Marijnissen, the Dutch Socialist Party (SP) is reconfiguring itself to become a cred

DUTCH SOCIALISTS: REVIVED...

¶2. (SBU) The Dutch Socialist Party (SP), has long been perceived as a more radical, leftist alternative to the increasingly mainstream Labor

¶3. (C) During the 2004 Dutch referendum on the EU's Constitutional Treaty, the SP drew on its extensive grass-roots networks -- especially i

...REFORMED...

¶4. (C) On May 16, Ambassador Arnall and POLCOUNS met with Marijnissen and van Bommel at the Second Chamber of Parliament. Marijnissen and va

¶5. (C) Van Bommel and Marijnissen made clear that they strongly disagreed with many policies of the Bush and Balkenende governments. The SP,

¶6. (C) Although the SP draws much of its support from urban areas with large immigrant populations, van Bommel   THE HAGUE 00001184 002 OF 0C

...AND READY TO RULE?

¶7. (C) Van Bommel and Marijnissen accented their willingness to serve in a left-wing coalition government with PvdA and GreenLeft -- a possi

¶8. (C) In a separate meeting with the Ambassador on May 17, PvdA member (and close Bos advisor) Frans Timmermans rejected outright any possi

COMMENT:

¶9. (C) Having rejected Maoism in the 1970's, abandoned Marxism-Leninism in 1991, and -- just last year -- dropped all references to public c